


## **Gateway's Ultrasound Ministry – just another way to serve the Lord and give opportunity for the Gospel to go forward!**

 "Ultrasound connects a woman with reality -- what she's actually carrying in the womb," said Tom Glessner, president of the National Institute of Family and Life Advocates. "It's no longer a 'condition' when the mother sees her moving child. A bonding takes place."

Ultrasound also helps other people in a pregnant woman's life see a problem pregnancy as a person. Often, women choose abortion because of unsupportive boyfriends or parents. So centers strongly encourage clients to return with doubting friends and family. Technicians nationwide relate stories of bored boyfriends who shuffle in with arms crossed, but later break down in tears or exclaim something like, "My son! That's my son!" Grandparents, too, point at the screen in shock, demanding, "Are you kidding me? Is that what's going on in her? Is that my granddaughter?"

The military first used ultrasound to locate submarines. But it wasn't until the early 1980s -- at least a decade after Roe vs. Wade opened the abortion floodgates in 1973 -- that CPCs began using ultrasound in their clinics. At least 200 CPCs nationwide now provide the service, and others among the estimated 3,000 CPCs across the country are converting themselves into medical clinics that offer ultrasound and other diagnostic pregnancy-related services. CPC directors say medical clinics draw more clients -- especially abortion-minded ones -- than nonmedical counseling centers.

Too bad ultrasound is so expensive: A machine costs about \$30,000. But some manufacturers offer discounts for pro-life organizations, cutting the price tag to around \$18,000. Support supplies like gloves, gel, and film run around \$1,000 annually, but medical professionals are the major cost. Some CPCs that can't afford to buy a machine or employ a technician are networking with other ultrasound clinics. Such links save lives: When a counselor at a non-CPC clinic senses that her client will choose abortion, she can call a local ultrasound-CPC for an emergency visit."

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